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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS
(CLAIMS AS OF MARCH 19, 2003)**

1. (Original) A masking tape comprising
- a) a heat resistant adhesive tape comprising a paper backing and a pressure sensitive adhesive composition,
 - b) a masking material, which is laminated in an edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition, is capable of adhering to paint and consists of a woven fabric, a nonwoven fabric or a sheet capable of adhering,
 - c) a masking sheet, which is laminated onto the very same edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition,
 - d) the masking sheet, covering the masking material on a side thereof.
2. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the adhesive tape is a heat resistant adhesive tape for the automobile painter, a so called masking tape, with the has a heat resistance especially at a temperature of up to 130°C (1 hour).
3. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the adhesive tape is 15 to 75 mm wide and, in particular 19 to 30 mm wide.
4. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the paper backing is

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creped, extensible and flexible and has good paint adhesion adheres to paint and the whole adhesive tape has a thickness of 100 to 250 μm and especially of 130 to 200 μm .

5. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking material is unbleached Kraft paper, having a weight of 30 to 40 g/m² and a width especially of 15 to 50 cm and particularly of 20 to 40 cm.

6. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking sheet has a thickness of 7 to 40 μm and especially of 8 to 20 μm , consists especially of polyolefin, particularly polyethylene and especially is corona pretreated and the has a width, in particular, of 0.5 to 2 m.


7. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking sheet is folded so that it can be extended, follows, in particular, along the external dimensions of the masking material and is folded against the masking material in accordion fashion.

8. (Currently amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein a portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition, to which the masking material adheres, is 1 to 5 and particularly 2 to 4 mm wide and a portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking sheet adheres is 1 to 5 and, in particular, 2 to 4 mm wide.

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9. (Original) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the tape is rolled up into a roll, the masking sheet is folded and the height of the roll corresponds approximately to the width of the masking material plus the width of the adhesive tape.

10. (Currently amended) A method comprising applying the masking tape of claim 1 to a part, especially an automobile part, to be masked, and then subjecting said part to a surface treatment, especially painting.

11. (New) The masking tape of claim 3, wherein the adhesive tape is 19 to 30 mm wide.

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12. (New) The masking tape of claim 4, wherein the thickness is 130 to 200 μm .

13. (New) The masking tape of claim 5, wherein the width is 20 to 40 cm.

14. (New) The masking tape of claim 6, wherein the thickness is 8 to 20 μm .

15. (New) The masking tape of claim 6, wherein the masking sheet is corona pretreated or consists of polyethylene.

16. (New) The masking tape of claim 8, wherein the portion of the edge region of the

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pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking material adheres is 2 to 4 mm wide, or the portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking sheet adheres is 2 to 4 mm wide.

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17. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the part is an automobile part.

18. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the surface treatment is painting.